

Visual Arts

Mrs Christine Mulvany

Students attend a fifty minute Visual Arts Lesson in the art room each week. They need to wear their own smock to protect their uniform when working in the art room. Their name needs to be clearly visible on the front of the smock.

In grade 5 & 6, students create artworks, incorporating the influence of others, as well as drawing on their past experiences. Their work responds to the class theme and exhibits skills in planning, creating, evaluating and refining. In Art appreciation, students will use appropriate language to describe their own and other people's works and they will discuss the purpose of the work in its historical and cultural context.

Graduation tea-towels

Students will create a graduation tea-towel which will incorporate a cartoon drawing from each Year 6 student. **Order forms are sent home early in Term 2. There is only one print run, so please return the order forms by the due date to avoid disappointment.**

The role of Visual Arts Specialist is being shared between Mrs Mulvany, who works Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays and Mrs Reid, who works Wednesdays, and Fridays.

As grade 5 and 6 art classes fall on Tuesdays, Mrs Mulvany will be taking Visual Arts classes for all grade 5 and 6 students during 2014.

Vermont Primary School is a Sustainable School

In 2006 the Vermont Primary School Sustainable Policy was written and passed by School Council. Since then we have been working on many initiatives to reduce our ecological and carbon footprint. We are a Gold level accredited "Water Learn – It – Live" School and were awarded the **City of Whitehorse Sustainable School Award in 2010.**

As parents you can support this program in a number of ways:

- Firstly please consider lunch packaging and avoid plastic wrap and pre-packed snacks. Try to use lunch boxes with snack compartments or reusable bags or snack boxes and please remember to label the lid and box.
- We also encourage students to drink plenty of water, particularly on hot days and we urge you to supply named, reusable water bottles that can be refilled at the taps, as this avoids wasting water at the bubbler taps.
- Help recycle useful material. The library houses a recycling centre for items such as: corks, stamps, round plastic take-away food containers, old cards, lace, buttons, elastic bands, mobile phones etc. If you have access to other interesting items that you feel could be used in Visual Art or Technology, please contact Mrs Chris Mulvany or Mrs Julie Reid. Please do not just leave bags outside the art room, as storage space is limited.

Tournament of Minds

This year we will again be running the Tournament of Minds extension activities where children work in mixed aged groups to creatively solve challenges. At the end of term one children in grades 5 & 6 will have the opportunity to attend an introductory session. In term 2 a T.O.M training squad will meet on Thursday mornings for further training before a final School team is selected. The school team will meet on Thursday mornings and prepare for the regional championship that takes place in mid term 3. Further information will be distributed early in term 2 for those indicating an interest and aptitude for the training squad.

Performing Arts

Mr Travis Fraser

The curriculum at Level 4 will cover the following aspects:

- Students form their own performance groups which stage a variety of dramatic and musical items in class throughout the year
- Students will learn about various technologies and creating their own music using computer based programs
- Students will learn to critique different styles of music, commenting on various forms musical elements and styles such as melody, genre, dynamics, pitch, tempo, musical feel etc.
- There will be an increased use of guitars, drum kits and keyboards to recreate simplified pop songs and practice rhythm and timing.

This year's production will be a live stage show. As the school has a large number of students we will be breaking up the production into a Junior School and a Senior School Production. At Vermont Primary School we rotate each year between a school film and a stage production, so as to provide students with a greater variety of Performing Arts experiences.

A Music Soiree highlighting the musical talent of our students will be showcased in the stadium during Term 2. This event will feature the Orchestra, School Choir and also various solo acts.

Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

Mrs Julie Hall

Students in grades 5 & 6 have a 50 minute dedicated session in the ICT lab each week where every student has access to their own computer and an extensive array of software, hardware and online resources. ICT will be closely linked to the enquiry topic for each term as well as being integrated with the literacy and numeracy program.

Students will develop skills by using ICT for problem solving, expressing ideas and presenting information. ICT is utilised for visual thinking, creating and communicating. ICT tools will also be used to help students to plan and organise ideas to develop their thinking and communication skills.

Students will continue to use ICT tools to create and construct information products utilising Office applications such as PowerPoint and Excel, video and audio editing programs like Audacity, specialised multimedia software such as Newsmaker, as well as animation techniques through Stop Motion Pro. This year they will be creating a clay animation film in small groups. Characters will be created as part of the Art program with Mrs Mulvany and filming will take place during ICT in term three.

Students are responsible for developing and maintaining their own files and folders on the school network, including security passwords and network file management. It is expected that these files are appropriately organised with correct naming and locations. Students are also able to engage these features at any time on the desktop or laptop computers in their classroom, via our school intranet and network wireless system.

Students will use ICT for email and internet research once the Internet User agreement has been discussed and signed. When you receive this, please discuss it with your son/daughter and when signed, return it promptly to your class teacher.

Staying 'safe' on the Internet is extremely important and the students will participate in a cybersafety program called Cyberquoll.

ICT is a dynamic and ever changing area and I look forward to working with your child to assist them to become safe, creative and efficient users of information and communication technologies.

Indonesian LOTE

Bu Smith (Mrs Smith)

Selamat datang welcome to Bahasa Indonesia lessons. Many students are learning Indonesian for the first time and I wish them all a warm welcome to their Indonesian classes. *Selamat belajar* enjoy your studies.

At Vermont Primary School we teach the Indonesian language to all children from Prep through to Year 6. The students are immersed in the Indonesian language and culture through a range of activities, including listening, speaking, singing, dancing, reading and writing.

Learning a language fosters students' ability to think and reflect, develop mental flexibility and problem solving strategies. It offers students the opportunity and the ability to develop interpersonal skills and to practise higher order thinking skills in a meaningful context.

This classroom is located next to the Music Room in the Old School Building and is used as a Science Lab during the sessions that LOTE are not running. Students in Grades 5 and 6 attend fifty minute Bahasa Indonesia lessons weekly in the Specialist LOTE classroom. Students are required to bring their own pencil cases with pencils to each lesson.

The Grade 5 students will be learning about greetings, colours, numbers 1 to 20 and days of the week. The students will develop their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills focusing on information about themselves. This will be achieved through song, dance and various games.

The Grade 6 students will be learning the names of colours, numbers 1 to 100, days of the week and months of the year. Students will write about topics related to themselves such as pets and hobbies. Students will participate in singing, dancing, games and activities to reinforce these learning concepts.

Physical Education

Mr Clinton Walsh

Physical Education – Curriculum

At Level 4, students are encouraged to use strategic thinking, communication and cooperation to enhance performance and participation in order to improve game performance. Students begin to set personal goals to improve performance by reflecting on their skill development needs and explore strategies to achieve them.

Sport Education - Level 4 Sport

In addition to Physical Education, Level 4 students will also participate in a weekly 50 minute session of Sport Education. Sport Education will focus on the development of sport skills and provide students with an understanding of rules, strategies and tactics of various sports and an appreciation of codes of behaviour. Level 4 Sport will be held every Friday from 2.40pm – 3.30pm.

Nunawading District Interschool Winter and Summer Sport

This year Level 4 students will participate in the Nunawading District Interschool Sport program. Interschool Winter Sport will be held during Term 2 and Interschool Summer Sport will be played during Term 3. The sports available are AFL, Basketball, Bat Tennis, Cricket, Netball, Rounders, Softball, T-Ball and Volleyball. A full day round robin tournament will be the format for the Interschool Sport program.

School Sport Victoria Competition Pathway and Progressions

School Sport Victoria provides a competition pathway for member schools and individuals from member schools to participate in a competition structure that has a defined pathway across Victoria.

For Vermont Primary School, the Competition Pathway is:

District (Nunawading) → Division (Whitehorse) → Region (Eastern) → State (Victoria)

Progression through the SSV Competition Pathway applies to our school Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country Carnivals and our Level 4 Interschool Winter and Summer Sport program. School Teams and individuals must compete at each level of competition to reach the State Championships.

Team VIC State Teams

Each year, talented Victorian school students have the opportunity to trial for a place in the School Sport Victoria (SSV) Team Vic state team and participate in annual School Sport Australia (SSA) Championships. Sixty two teams are selected across twenty sports, involving over nine hundred primary and secondary school students representing 'Team Vic'.

The Team VIC primary school sports include Australian Football, Basketball, Cricket, Cross Country, Diving, Football (Soccer), Golf, Hockey, Netball, Rugby League, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Touch and Track and Field. Please contact me for information regarding the nomination process.

2014 Sports Calendar

- House Athletics – Bill Sewart Reserve – Thursday 13th March 9.00am – 3.30pm
- House Cross Country – Vermont PS – Friday 21st March 9.00am – 10.40am
- Swimming Program – Grade 5 – Tuesday 22nd April – Friday 2nd May
- Swimming Program – Grade 6 - Monday 6th October – Friday 17th October
- Interschool Sport – (TBC)